CONGRESSIONAL ACTION.

Passage of the Senate Bill Increasing the Appropriation for the Militia.

Mr. Plumb's Amendment to the National Bank Bill Beaten.

The House Begins Consideration of the Military Academy Appropriation Bill.

Debate on the Right of the Executive Departments to Withhold Information.

THE SENATE.

The chair laid before the senate a communication from the secretary of war, transmitting com-munications from the chief signal officer, with statement of losses of personal effects by officers and men of the steamer Protein on the sinking of that steamer in the Arcile sea. The secretary recommends a reimbursement of the officers and

men for the loss so incurred,
The following bills were reported adversely from committees, but by request of Mesars. Brown and Beck, respectively, were placed on the calendar: By Mr. Manderson, from the committee on

claims: The bill to provide for hearing and determining the claims of the state of Georgia. By Mr. D.lpn, from the same committee: For the relief of the Madison Female institute, located

at Ricomond, Ky.

Mr. Plumb, from the committee on agriculture, reported an original bill to enlarge the powers and duties or the department of agriculture. The bill was placed on the calendar.

The following bills were introduced and approgriately referred:
By Mr. Logan: To grant a pension to Susan B. Edson.

By Mr. Miller, of California: To authorize the crection of a public building at Oakland, Cal.

By Mr. Brown: To authorize the crection of oublic buildings at Augusta and Athens, Ga.

By Mr. Beck: To guard against deficits in the

reasury,
By Mr. Van Wyck: To provide for the sale of
part of the reservation of the Winnebago tribe of part of the reservation of the Winnebago tribe of Indians in Nebraska. By Mr. Call: To grant land warrants to soldiers and sailors in the United States survice in the Beminole Indian war of 1856, their widows and

The following resolution, offered by Mr. Van

The following resolution, offered by Mr. Van Wyck, was agreed to:

Resolved, That the secretary of the interior infrom the senate when and how many acres of indemnity lands were certified or patented to railroad corporations in the state of lowa to whom grants of public lands were donated: also, whether any of such roads are now obtaining more indemnity lands and what quantities.

On motion of Mr. Morrill, the action of the senate yesterday, indefinitely postponing the bill authorizing the secretary of the treasury to adjust and settle claims for duties illegally exacted, was reconsidered for the purpose of recommitting the bill to the committee on finance, in order that the committee might further hear parties interested.

The senate also, on motion of Mr. Miller, of California, reconsidered its action of yesterday, indefinitely postponing the bill authorizing the secretary of the treasury to adjust accounts between the United States and territories. The bill was placed on the calendar.

On motion of Mr. Allison the senate took up, read three times, and peased without debate, the bill fixing the time for holding the terms of the circuit and district course of the United States in the northern district of lowa. It fixes the times for the terms as follows: At Dubuque on the first Tuesday of April and bird Tuesday of November of each year, at Fort Dodge on the third Tuesday of January and June, and at Sioux City on the second Tuesday of May and first Tuesday of Cotober.]

On motion of Mr. Miller, of California, the bill to provide for the execution of the treaty row.

second Tuesday of July October.] On motion of Mr. Miller, of California, the bill On motion of Mr. Miller, of California, the bill

of January and June, and at Shoux City on the second Tuesday of May and first Tuesday of October.]

On motion of Mr. Miller, of California, the bill to provide for the execution of the treaty provisions relating to the suppression of the optimitation was taken from the calendar and recommitted to the committee on foreign relations.

The senate then proceeded to the consideration of unobjected cases upon the calendar, the first bill in order being to amend section 1661 of the revised statutes of the United States, making an annual appropriation to provide arms for the militia, [1t is the bill reported by Mr. Sewell from the committee accompanying the bill was read. It presents the insufficiency of the amount heretofore authorized for the purposes of the militia—\$200,000 annually. It points out the defects of the law, and recommends the passage of the present bill, appropriating 560,000. One of the defects pointed out is that the law as herefolore existing does not allow of the furnishing of tents or other articles necessary for camps of instruction.]

The bill as reported was verbally amended, and, as passed, it provides that section 1661 of the revised statutes shall read as follows:

Szc. I. That the sum of 560,000 is hereby annually appropriated, to be paid out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of providing arms, equipments, animumition, ordinance stores, and tents for the militia.

Szc. 2. That said appropriation shall be apportioned among the several states and territories on the books of the ordinance department by the chief of ordance of the army, under the direction of the secretary of war, according to the number of senators and representatives or delegates to which each state and territory tospectively is entitled in the congress of the United States: Provided, however, That each state and territory shall only be entitled to receive its apportionment of ins appropriation apportioned to it as the proportion of the secretary of war made on the preceding first Monday

facts of the situation, and if the senstor from lowa [Mr. Allison] was willing to keep the in-tional bank system, white basing is circulation on the bonds of the states, he was evidently willing to keep the system in name merely and not in substance.

substance.

Mr. Morgan moved an amendment to the provision of Mr. Flumb so as to limit the issue of the treasury notes to esses wherein the circulation should be surreadered in consequence of the call and payment of bonds piedged to secure such circulation. In the course of his remarks on this amendment, Mr. Morgan said it was the purpose of congress to give the people the very best financial system possible. He thought the country was to be congratulated that the present system was not the outgrowth of any one mind or the pet scheme of any one party, but had grown up out of the institutions of the people. The last banking act had modified the present system in such a mainer that Mr. Morgan preferred it to the proposition of the gentleman from Kaniss as it now should have no more money in circulation and no less than a given amount. If we do that we put a Chinese from shoe upon the commerce of the country, rendering its proper growth impossible. Whatever his personal predilections may have been he would regard himself as simily lineaue to argue against the constitutionality of the maional bolik system, or he did not know of a decision of any court despite the constitution of the read on the proper growth impossible. Whatever his presentation of evidence against the paper in the should, therefore, proceed on the regard himself as simily lineaue to argue against the constitutionality of the maional brik system, or he did not know of a decision of any court despite the people. But we would never live to see the day when the government which had, by its legislation at various times, substantially sammed the obligations involved in the bank circulation, would have not seen the substantially sammed the obligations involved in the bank circulation, would have not seen the substantially sammed the obligations involved in the bank circulation, would have not suggested to the favor of men like the development of the United States? In that respect we were not astonishing durished to subgested and the proposition of the de

pense.
After further debate the modification suggested
by Mr. Morgan to the amendment of Mr. Flumb
was not agreed to.
Mr. Flumb's amendment was then rejected by a

was not agreed to.

Mr. Plinmb's amendment was then rejected by a vote of 15 yeas to 35 mays.

The next amendment to the bill of the committee was that offered by Mr. Morrill, which gave to the 4 per cent bounds a higher rate of circulation, and alse gave the banks which had been organized on a gold basis the same privileges as other mitlonal banks.

This amendment was also rejected, the vote being 20 yeas to 36 mays.

Mr. Morrill moved separately the amendment relating to what he termed the "gold hanks," and which had been just disagreed to. Unless they were included in the committee's bill, he said, they could only receive 50 per cent, on the bonds that might be deposited. The amendment in separate form was systed to. If reads as follows: "That was of lations of penulated for the purpose of issuing notes payable in gold under the provisions of section 5185 of the revised statutes of the United States, upon the deposit of any United States bonds baring interest with the treaturer of the United States, shall be entitled to receive circulating notes to the amount and in the manner prescribed in this act for other national banking associations."

Mr. Morgan then introduced the amendment

in this act for other introduced the amendment stons."

Mr. Morgan then introduced the amendment suggested by him some days are, permitting state bonds to be received on denosit as security, provided the interest shall have been paid, and provided they are at par in the city of New York. When about to address the senate on this poposition, Mr. Morgan gave way for a motion of Mr. Harris that the senate go into executive session. The senate then at 4:30 p. m. went into executive session, and, when the doors were reopened, adjourned.

THE HOUSE.

Mr. Dunn asked immediate consideration of a resolution providing for the appointment of a select committee of seven to inquire what changes in the laws in regard to the administration of public lands should be made.

Mr. Brown, of Pennsylvania, said he would not object if the committee on public lands were given power to inquire into the subject referred to,

given power to inquire into the subject referred to.

Mr. Dunn replied that the public lands committee already had more before it than it can get
through with.

Before action was taken on the resolution Mr.
Money, from the committee on postonices and
postronals submitted a privileged report upon a
resolution calling on the p-satmaster general to
transmit to the house the reports made by special
agents of the postonice department, having referagents of the postotice department, having refe-ence to star route investigations not heretotor

made public.

Mr. Peoile said the postmaster general had sent letters to the house stading that in this opinion it would be detrimental to the public interest in the

in scott present the United States.

or inclinate, on those sources, and term for the made by the chief of crimance of the army under the made by the chief of crimance of the army under the made by the chief of crimance of the army under the made by the chief of crimance of the army under the made by the chief of crimance of the army under the made by the chief of crimance of the army under the made by the chief of crimance of the army under the single of the army under the single of the army under the single of the second of the state of the st

Sweet National bank, of Nebraska city, Neb., to the Mercuanta National Bank, of Nebraska.

From the committee on military affairs: A bill to autherize the government to accept the lands and buildings, the property of Eric, Pa., to be used as a home for indigent soldiers and salors.

From the committee on postofices and post roads: A bill allowing extra compensation to posturasters of the third class for rent. &c.

From public lands committee: A bill to declare forfeited the land grant to the Oregon Central Railroad company.

Also, a joint resolution authorizing the secretary of war to lease certain lands to the board of fish commissioners of the state of Michigan.

From the committee on Indian affairs: A bill for the relief of critizens of Oregon, Idaho, and Washington territories who were with the United States troops in the wars with the Nex Perces Indians.

From the public buildings committee: Bills providing for the erection of public buildings at Keokuk, Iowar Paterson, N. Y. Lacrosse, Wis.; Chicago, Ill., and Troy, N. Y.

From the invalid paintage committee: A bill to prevent the government from inquiring into the physical health of an applicant for a pension at the time for energy the service.

From the foreign affairs committee: A loint resolution authorizing Minster W. H. Huat to accept a medal from the emperor of Russia.

Also, a resolution that the President be requested to prevent the delivery of Senior Carlos Aguero, now in Key West, Fla., and held for extradition on the demand of the government of Spaio, until it shall be assertationed that the charges against him are true, and that he is not had for political forced in attorney general of the United States to have an investigation of the case made.

Mr. Ryan, from the committee on appropriations, called up the loint resolution annormation.

United States to have an investigation of the case made.

Mr. Ryan, from the committee on appropriations, called up the joint resolution appropriations, called up the joint resolution appropriating \$150,000 to be expended among the Indians for educational purposes, and it was passed.

On motion of Mr. Keifer the house resolved itself into committee of the whole on the gate of the union (Mr. Bland, of Massouri, in the chair) to consider the military academy appropriation bill. Mr. Keifer said that the entire appropriation bill. Mr. Keifer said that the entire appropriation for the pay of cadets had been increased to the extent of \$10,000. He said there were but 279 cadets in attendance at the academy, although the law allowed \$44.

Mr. Cobb asked why so many vacancies exist, Mr. Keifer repilled that many failed of examination.

nation.

"Are not examinations so high," inquired Mr., Cobb, "that no young man can enter? The principal study is mathematics. The institution is not accomplishing what its founders intended. I have sent three young men from Indians," he said, "the most brilliant in my district, and not one was admitted, and I doubt whether there is a young man in my district that can pass the examination required for entrance to the academy. All failed on mathematics."

mathematics."
Mr. Belford wanted a change at the military academy. He characterized the institution as the "corporative tyranny of this country, governed by suchs." by snobs."

Mr. Ellis defended the academy and the high grade of examinations required. "A beautiful curriculum congress would propare!" he said in speaking of a course of study that congress might

decide upon.

Mr. Kandell said West Point should have the highest possible standard. It is not a question of numbers, but a question of intelligence. The government did not want a full scadeny now, but would prefer to have only one-haif the required number, but it wants that number of the very best.

out would prefer to have only one-half the frequired number, but it wants that number of the very best.

Mr. Cox, of New York, recommended the appointment of a committee to go to West Point and Annapolis to see that money was not wasted. He said he knew that snobbery ruled at West Point. When the next committee visits that academy he hoped that the members will not be so well wined and dined and danced that they cannot attend properly to their work.

Mr. Townshend said a young man from his district, in lilitons, had falled to gain admission because he could not give the name of the vessel in which Columbus crossed the ocean when this country was discovered.

Mr. Beford again characterized the officers of the institution as snobs, and said that if the father or the mother of a boy at West Point visited there, and stopped at a first class hotel, the rules of the academy would not permit him to call upon them. Mr. Steel, in answer, said that there was as much truth in the statement of the gentleman from Colorado as there was in the statement he had made a few days slove, that he got up at 5 o'clock to answer 190 letters.

At 4:25 the rounnitzee rose, and the house adjourned to enable the democrats to hold a joint caucus in the hall of representative.

CONFIRMATIONS.

The senate in execute session yesterday confirmed the following nominations: firmed the following nominations:
Chaz. S. Holstein, of Indians, United States attorney for the district of Indians,
Postmasters—Jacob W. F. Little, at West Point,
Ga.: David S. Johnson, at Madison, Ga.: James
H. Marshall, at Lancaster, Pa.: James Kell, at
York, Pa.; Nathan Wentworth, at Geat Falls, N.
H.; Chas. C. Phillips, at Hangor, Mich.; Abijah L.
Shatuck, at Orange, Mass.; Ednar C. Elwood, at
Mohawk, N. Y.; John F. Bishop, at Geneseo, N. Y.,
and Edgar P. Putnam, at Jamestown, N. Y.

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lon at office. Gen. Dent's sworn affidavit, with
undreds of others, to be seen at office. Below we

five the issumes of a few of those cured.

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Hon. J. D. Springer, attorney for the N. W. R. R.,

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polls, rheumatism, indigestion, and liver A. C.

ordan, managing editor of the Minneapolis Journal,

heumather of the Pionzer Press, St. Paul, kidney,

and general debility. I. Swift, F., cashler Minneapo
is Tribune, sprained ankler J. J. Jordan, forema
newsroom Tellone, Maneapolis, rheumatism, M.

W. Smith, Fettred editor, 330 Dayton avenue, St.

"and, itver, kidneys, and digestion C. A. Zierah,

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